

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 DODE-00 EB-11

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DRAFTED BY NEA/IRN:JCMIKLOS:ML

6/28/73 EXT 23014

APPROVED BY NEA - JOSEPH J. SISCO

EUR/SOV - MR. ROY

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R 292049Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, US, UR

SUBJECT: IRAN AND BREZHNEV U.S. VISIT

1. AT HIS REQUEST IRANIAN AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI CALLED ON ASST. SEC. SISCO JUNE 27 TO GET A RUNDOWN ON THE BREZHNEV U.S. VISIT.

2. SISCO OPENED BY NOTING THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT WERE TO CONSOLIDATE AND BUILD ON THE POSITIVE TRENDS THAT HAD DEVELOPED IN US-USSR RELATIONS, TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE RISK OF NUCLEAR CONFRONTATION, TO FURTHER THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM MEETINGS OF THIS SORT AND TO ESTABLISH A TIME FRAME FOR ANOTHER MEETING. IN THIS LATTER CONNECTION HE NOTED THAT PARTIES ATTEMPTED TO PURSUE POLICIES WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF SUMMIT MEETINGS AND THEREFORE AGREEING TO MEET AGAIN HAD VALUE IN AND OF ITSELF IN PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL HARMONY.

3. AS TO THE ATMOSPHERE SISCO SAID THAT IT WAS GOOD FROM
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THE VERY BEGINNING. VIETNAM WAS NO LONGER A BURNING

ISSUE, A DIALOGUE AND RELATIONSHIP HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED SINCE LAST YEAR, A NUMBER OF POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS HAD OCCURRED SINCE THEN AND BREZHNEV HAD DONE A GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS JOB THROUGHOUT THE VISIT.

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4. THE COMMUNIQUE ITSELF REFLECTED MUTUAL SATISFACTION AND AGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ISSUES INCLUDING SALT, NUCLEAR RESTRAINT AND A COMMITMENT THAT LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS AGREEMENT SHOULD BE ACHIEVED IN 1974. FURTHER THERE IS NOW AGREEMENT TO BEGIN DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL BALANCED FORCE REDUCTION ON OCTOBER 30, 1973.

5. SISCO SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO TURN TO THE MIDEAST ASPECTS OF THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH HE KNEW TO BE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO IRAN. FIRST, HE NOTED, WE DID NOT EXPECT ANY DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGH. THERE WAS AND STILL IS NO UNANIMITY OF VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE. BOTH SIDES REITERATED THEIR POSITIONS WITH THE SOVIETS HOLDING TO THE VIEW THAT THERE MUST BE TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES AND WE STILL BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL TO GET THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS STARTED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE ARABS. NEVERTHELESS WE BELIEVE THAT BETWEEN US THERE WAS A RECOMMITMENT TO SEEK A POLITICAL SOLUTION AND RECOGNITION THAT THE MIDEAST SHOULD NOT BRING THE SUPERPOWERS TO CONFRONTATION. MOREOVER BOTH SIDES SHARED A CERTAIN SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT THE MIDEAST.

6. SISCO WENT ON TO NOTE THAT THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS SPOKE FOR THEMSELVES. THEY FORMALIZED A NUMBER OF COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS IN AGRICULTURE, CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND CIVIL AVIATION. WE WERE PLEASED OVER THE PROTOCOL EXPANDING OUR COMMERCIAL FACILITIES IN THE SOVIET UNION ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT.

7. MOST FAVORED NATIONS TREATMENT WAS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE AND, SISCO SAID, NO DOUBT ZAHEDI HAD NOTICED THE MAJOR EFFORT BREZHNEV MADE WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ON THIS SUBJECT. NEVERTHELESS CONGRESSIONAL HESITATION IS STILL CONSIDERABLE.

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8. ZAHEDI ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY DISCUSSION OF THE PERSIAN GULF. SISCO REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE A FULL ACCOUNT OF EVERYTHING THAT HAD TRANSPIRED AND WHILE WE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF THE PERSIAN GULF HAD NOT BEEN TOUCHED AND, IN A TOUR OF WORLD-WIDE PROBLEMS, HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY SPECIAL ATTENTION HAVING BEEN GIVEN TO THE AREA. FYI SISCO WILL CHECK FURTHER WITH WHITE HOUSE ON THIS MATTER END FYI. HE ADDED THAT, IN ANY EVENT, THERE SHOULD BE NO

DOUBT THAT IN ALL OF THE DISCUSSIONS HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT U.S. HAD TAKEN INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VIEWS AND INTEREST OF OUR ALLIES AND THAT NO DEALS HAD BEEN MADE BEHIND ANYONE'S BACK.

9. ZAHEDI SAID THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE EUROPEAN SKEPTICISM ABOUT THIS AND REFERRED TO A RECENT CONVERSATION HE HAD HAD

WITH NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS IN WHICH THE LATTER, WHO IS GENERALLY VERY SOUND AND REALISTIC, HAD EXPRESSED DOUBTS AND RESERVATIONS. SISCO SAID WE WERE WELL AWARE OF THESE CONCERNS AND KNEW THAT MYTH SOMETIMES TAKES ON THE APPEARANCE OF REALITY AND WE HAD TO DEAL WITH IT AS SUCH. THE EUROPEANS FAVOR US-USSR DETENTE BUT AT THE SAME TIME FEAR THAT IN THE PROCESS THE US WILL LOSE INTEREST IN WESTERN EUROPE. ALL WE CAN DO IS TO CONTINUE TO TRY AND PERSUADE THEM THAT BOTH ARE NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE.

10. ZAHEDI CONCLUDED BY ASKING ABOUT EVOLVING US-USSR RELATIONS CONCERNING GAS AND OIL. WHAT GUARANTEES DID WE HAVE THAT HUGE INVESTMENTS WOULD BE PROTECTED IN THE LONG RUN. SISCO REPLIED THAT WE HAD TO PROCEED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MUTUAL INVOLVEMENT WITH MUTUAL BENEFITS WOULD PROVIDE THE ATMOSPHERE OF CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY NECESSARY TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONDUCT OF THESE RELATIONS. ROGERS

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